

# Cedar River Anadromous Fish Committee

## Summary Meeting Minutes November 21, 2002

**Meeting Time 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Meeting Location:**

**Metering Building, Second Floor Conference Room  
SPU Operations Control Center  
2700 Airport Way South  
Seattle, WA**

**Members and Alternates Present:** Bruce Bachen (SPU), Tim Romanski (USFWS), Bill Robinson (Trout Unlimited), Frank Urabeck (NW Marine Trade Association), Sam Wright (WA Trout), Tom Sibley (NMFS), Chuck Wischman (Puget Sound Anglers), Steve Foley (WDFW)

**Other Participants:** Chuck Johnson (WDFW), Brodie Antipa (WDFW), Tom Quinn (UW), Dave Hilmoe (SPU), and Paul Faulds (SPU)

### **I. Call to order**

*Bruce called the meeting to order at 9:09 AM. He introduced Dave Hilmoe the Division Director for SPU Water Quality and Supply.*

### **II. Approval of agenda**

*Members unanimously approved the agenda.*

### **III. Meeting minutes review and approval from October 21<sup>st</sup>**

*Members unanimously approved the minutes from October 21<sup>st</sup> following a minor change recommended by Brodie on page two.*

### **IV. Cedar River sockeye hatchery program**

***Discussion of proposed research on adult sockeye entry timing and distribution in Lake Washington and the Cedar River and funding options.***

*Bruce introduced Tom Q. as a member of the Cedar River Hatchery Design Team and significant contributor to the Program Documents for the Cedar River Sockeye Hatchery. Bruce reported that a few weeks ago he had a meeting with Tom Q. and in the course of sidebar conversation Tom mentioned one of his graduate students was planning a sockeye monitoring project in Lake Washington. Bruce invited Tom Q. to discuss the project with the AFC.*

### ***Update on statistical review of the adult sockeye sampling program***

*Bruce reported that the review of the adult sockeye program was underway. He described a meeting with John Skalski; Kurt Fresh, Steve Schroder, Annette Blanchet, Paul Faulds, and himself that discussed the broodstock collection program and carcass recovery efforts. The meeting resulted in developing some key questions for John Skalski to look at, including an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of weir and carcass sampling, and a review of previous sampling methods used for to analyze the relationship between fry releases and adult returns. Bruce noted that Steve Schroder was very supportive of the review.*

### ***DEIS comments***

*Bruce provided members with a summary of the Draft EIS comments.*

## **V. Landsburg fish passage update**

### ***Construction progress report.***

*Bill Wells had provided Paul F. with a written update on the Fish Passage Project. Paul F. reported to members the project is on schedule and the park entrance improvements, riparian re-vegetation at the rock drops, and large woody debris anchoring was completed the week of Nov 18, 2002. All instream construction work was completed on schedule for the fish ladder at the dam.*

## **VI. Interim mitigation program for coho, chinook and steelhead**

### ***Update on steelhead genetics proposal***

*Chuck J. reported to members that not much of steelhead genetics proposal has changed since the last draft. Frank noted his comments were not incorporated and he asked Chuck J. to look into it. Bruce wondered how valuable the research would be if steelhead returns are low and not enough samples are collected. He asked members if the research would be valuable without enough genetic samples collected at the locks. Chuck J. advocated that the collection of *O. mykiss* may stand on its own because it will provide information on hybridization and relationships between populations in various locations.*

### ***Other proposals***

*Bruce reported that other opportunities exist for interim proposals and they should be considered on a parallel track. Research on the success of colonization above Landsburg is being discussed and proposals may be developed for AFC consideration.*

### ***Letter to LMA Parties***

*Bruce asked members to review a draft letter from the AFC to LMA Parties describing the process for recommending future funding for interim funding proposals for chinook, coho, and steelhead. Bruce asked members if the letter captured the intent of the previous discussions concerning funding proposals. The letter briefly described the recent progress in the interim program and the establishment of a default provision that will annually transfer unspent funds to the Cedar River Downstream Habitat Program.*

***Bruce asked the AFC, with the revisions to the letter does the AFC approve the letter to the LMA Parties. Frank moved to accept the letter with the discussed changes and Chuck W. seconded the motion. Members were unanimously in favor of the letter.***

## **VII. Public comment (scheduled for 11:30)**

*There were no public comments.*

## **VIII. Information and discussion items**

### ***Cedar River chinook and sockeye counts – WDFW updated earlier.***

*Steve Foley reported on the Cedar River chinook and sockeye counts. The total chinook redd count is about 250. Sockeye numbers are staying pretty flat and there may be 30,000 live fish still in the river. This year the run has a higher peak than in 2000 and the run may be around 150,000 to 200,000 fish.*

## **IX. Adjourn**

*The meeting adjourned at 1:05 PM.*